THEMESSAGE

A House of Prayer for All People





The **Theological Enrichment Committee** is pleased to announce our inaugural year of Insights: A Series of Lectures & Talks Highlighting Some of America's Leading Religious Writers and Theologians. This year's line up is as follows:

November 7: Eric Metaxas. Eric Metaxas is the author of the New York Times #1 Bestseller, Bonhoeffer: Pastor, Martyr, Prophet, Spy. Named "Book of the Year" by the ECPA, Bonhoeffer also won the 2011 John C. Pollock Award for Biography awarded by Beeson Divinity School and a 2011 Christopher Award in the Non-fiction category. Metaxas will be speaking at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral on his latest book, Miracles: What they are, Why they happen, and How they can change your life. Metaxas is made possible by generous donations from Ben & Walter Hussman, Julie & Chris Keller, and Bill Dillard III.

Feburary 18: Diana Butler Bass. Diana Butler Bass is an author, speaker, and independent scholar specializing in American religion and culture. She holds a Ph.D. in religious studies from Duke University and is the author of eight books, including Christianity After Religion: The End of Church and the Birth of a New Spiritual Awakening (HarperOne, 2012). Diana will be speaking at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral on her best-selling book Christianity for the Rest of Us: How the Neighborhood Church is Transforming the Faith (2006) which was named as one of the best religion books of the year by Publishers Weekly and was featured in a cover story in USA TODAY.

April 2: Elaine Pagels. Elaine Pagels joined the Princeton faculty in 1982, shortly after receiving a MacArthur Fellowship. Perhaps best known as the author of The Gnostic Gospels, The Origin of Satan, and Adam, Eve and the Serpent, she has published widely on Gnosticism and early Christianity, and continues to pursue research interests in late antiquity. Her most recent books include Beyond Belief: The Secret Gospel of Thomas (was on the New York Times best-seller list) and Reading Judas: The Gospel of Judas and the Shaping of Christianity, co-authored with Karen King of Harvard. Her current project is working on a book entitled Revelations, which will explore the New Testament Book of Revelation and other Jewish, Christian, and Pagan books of Revelation written around the same time. Pagels is made possible by a generous donation from the Cindy Bost Vision Trust.

April 28: Glennon Doyle Melton. In her own words: For twenty years I was lost to food and booze and bad love and drugs. I suffered. My family suffered. When I was eight years old, I made up my own little world called addiction and I hid there for decades. I felt safe. No one could touch me. On Mother's Day 2002, unwed and addicted, I found myself holding a positive pregnancy test. I decided to become a mother and vowed to never again have another drink, cigarette, drug, unhealthy relationship, or food binge. I found myself marrying a man I'd known for ten sober nights. Twelve years later, I'm still married to that man I barely knew, and I'm also the mother of three kids, two mutts, a geriatric guinea pig and the two most majestic banyan trees you've ever seen. I'm also a Sunday School teacher, an award-winning blogger, a New York Times bestselling author, speaker, and the founder and president of Together Rising. Life is brutal. But it's also beautiful. Brutiful, I call it. My job is to wake up every day, say yes to life's invitation, and let millions of women watch me get up off the floor, walk, stumble, and get back up again.

Each lecture will begin at 6:30 in the Cathedral, with a reception following in Morrison Hall. Books will be available to purchase and have signed. There will be a Sponsors & Patrons reception prior to the lecture. For more information on sponsorships, please contact Annie Burton at annie@trinitylittlerock.org. Tickets to Eric Metaxas, Diana Butler Bass and Glennon Doyle Melton are \$25 for general seating or \$100 for patron tickets (which include an invitation to the Sponsors & Patrons reception and reserved seating). General admission to Elaine Pagels is free, but tickets are still required. Patron Tickets are also available for Pagels for \$100. Tickets are available to purchase online as follows: Eric Metaxas: http://insightsmetaxas.eventbrite.com Diana Butler Bass: http://insightsbutlerbass.eventbrite.com Elaine Pagels: http://insightspagels.eventbrite.com Glennon Doyle Melton: General Admission Tickets are not on sale yet. Patron Tickets are available at: http://insightsglennon.eventbrite.com

Promises, Promises



Cathedral Camp 2015 is complete. A wonderful week was had by all as we began our 6 year journey through the Old Testament. This year we learned about creation, Adam & Eve, the Garden of Eden, Noah, and Abraham. Next year we move on to Tricks, Lies, and Holy Scrapes - we pick up the story with Abraham and conclude with Joseph and his brothers. Our thanks to our great team of adult volunteers: Susan Allen, Mary Margaret Wippo, Jonathan Treloggen, Emma Allen, Denise Albert, Annie Burton, Chalmer Wayland, Ann Pollard, Margaret Faulkner. We couldn't do camp without our youth: Mary Clark, Sam, Maggie, Beth, Elliott, Henry, Bryn, Graham, Micah.

You can find more photos from the event on the Trinity Facebook page!

Search Committee Update

The committee has been working during the month of July to organize visits to the parishes of the candidates for Dean and Rector. We have successfully pared the candidates to three outstanding individuals, any one of whom would be an excellent Dean and Rector for Trinity, matching our spiritual, worship, parish and Cathedral management, and growth needs. The three parish visits will occur over three different weekends in August. Then the committee will determine which candidates should take the next step to visit us here at Trinity. It could be all three, two, or one. Our visits to their parishes, spending time with them personally, and then experiencing worship with them, will help us make that important decision. While it would be foolish to set a firm deadline for calling our new Dean and Rector, I think we can safely say we should have a final determination for the Bishop and the Vestry to consider by early fall.

- Craig Douglass

Late Summer 2014: Religious Freedom: Deepening the Conversation



Note from Dr. Keller: Both in our state and nationwide this Spring, the scope and limits of religious freedom were a topic of much political discussion. As a priest, I've not been afraid of controversy, but I found myself wary of this one—concerned and perplexed. Many friends were strongly committed to one side—by overwhelming vote, our Diocesan Convention opposed a piece of legislation (House Bill 1228) that purported to protect religious freedom. I abstained, as the topic seemed to me to involve a set of very important, complex questions. At this point, I'm more of mind to probe the questions than I am to take positions. So I thought of a way to do that. Clarke Tucker—who as Senior Warden asked me to come to Trinity—is now a State Representative. Taking positions is his job! Clarke is faithful and thoughtful, with a good lawyer's understanding of the issues. I approach them as a theologian. Theology is "faith seeking understanding." I asked Clarke if he would be willing to engage in a Sunday

morning dialogue with me about religious freedom—and he readily accepted. In these conversations we will take up one or more questions and, from our different perspectives, share our convictions, insights, and questions—in the pursuit of understanding. Our goal will be to deepen the conversation. The sessions will take place on Sunday mornings at 10:15. Here is the schedule: August 9: What is religion? What is freedom? August 16: What should religious freedom be under the U.S. Constitution? August 23: What is justice? What is discrimination? August 30: How should state and federal laws address unjust discrimination? September 6: What should happen where requirements of the law may conflict with prerogatives of religious freedom?

Email Addresses Needed: Can't wait for The Message to arrive? Want to know what is happening at Trinity? Make sure we have your email address so you receive the weekly Trinity Update. It contains a brief look at the many events on the block. Send your email address to dhowe@trinitylittlerock.org and we'll make sure you are added to the update list.

The Trinity Cathedral Music Program: Fall 2015



The **CATHEDRAL CHOIR** sings regularly for the 9:00 a.m. Sunday morning Choral Eucharist, and seasonal services, and other special musical events such as Evensong and Lessons and Carols. The choir is open to singers from high school age and up. A basic knowledge of music reading is helpful, but the ability to sight-read every note perfectly is not a requirement. Similarly one does not have to have a perfect voice. Every voice counts and instruction in vocal production is a component of each rehearsal. In our corporate pursuit of choral excellence, balance, tuning, and blend we all strive to improve our skills on a weekly basis. The choir is assisted in these goals by professional adult section leaders. Rehearsals: Wednesdays, 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm, starting August 19.

The **CATHEDRAL HANDBELL CHOIR** provides music for preludes, postludes, or other parts of our services on an occasional basis. Additionally, smaller ensembles accompany or add musical ambience to hymns, psalms, or anthems. Membership is open to all persons from high school and up. If you are an experienced ringer or already read music pretty well, you can probably just jump right in. If you are a beginner to bell playing and/or don't read music, FEAR NOT. A series of coaching sessions are available for prospective members providing instruction in the technique of ringing and the basic rhythm reading you would need to feel comfortable joining the choir. Rehearsals: Wednesdays, 6:00 pm – 7:00 pm, starting September 9.

ROBERT WILSON CHORAL SCHOLARS: Another component of our music program is the Robert Wilson Choral Scholars Fund, which provides a stipend for four select high school or college students to sing in the Cathedral Choir from September through May. Among the purposes of this program are to encourage young musicians, assist in the development of their choral skills, and honor the use of their talents in service to the Church. The Choral Scholars Fund was established by parishioner, Jane Wilson, in honor of her late husband, Bob, who was an accomplished singer and lover of music. For further information or to schedule an audition, contact Dr. Thomas Lee, Director of Music.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG SINGERS: Young singers from 3rd through 8th grade are invited to sing for various seasonal services throughout the year. This Fall, those dates are: Evensong – October 18 at 4:00 pm, Thanksgiving Day – November 26 at 10:00 am, and on Christmas Eve. Rehearsals for these services are scheduled as needed and at mutually convenient times.

The Cathedral's Annual Christmas Pageant is scheduled for Sunday, December 13 at 5:00 pm. Participation is open to young people of all ages. Rehearsals for various age groups and scenes are held on Sunday afternoons in the fall. Full cast rehearsals begin in December and the dress rehearsal occurs on the Saturday morning prior to the performance.

TOWER BELLS: The Cathedral has a full peal of bells in its Tower and is a center for the art of campanology (change bell ringing). The Trinity Ringing Society meets every Wednesday evening from 6:30pm thru 8:30pm. Full instruction is offered to beginners, and all are welcome to try. The Centennial Bells are rung every Sunday before services, other special occasions, and are often requested for weddings. The change bell ringers can be watched in the Bell Tower every Sunday morning.

Our singers and ringers are convivial groups who diligently and joyfully rehearse to provide the finest music for worship at the Cathedral.

New members are always welcome.

Contact Dr. Thomas Lee, Director of Music, for information about joining any of the Cathedral's music ensembles or other ways to assist the music program.

Please remember Trinity Cathedral in your will.



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Weekly Worship Schedule: Sunday - 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:15 a.m., & 5:00 p.m. Monday - Friday Morning Prayer at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday Healing Eucharist at 5:15 p.m.

EYC Begins a New Year on August 23!



It's amazing what we can do when we come together. It starts with us. That's our theme this year as we embark on a new, full, Episcopal Youth Community year here at Trinity. The kids are our future. They are the ones we, as adults, can learn from, and all of us can grow through Christ. If you are or know of a youth in 6th through 12th grades, Trinity's Episcopal Youth Community is the place for you! We come together for fun, worship, formation, and service. We strive to create a variety of opportunities where young people will be fed, formed, and empowered to be faithful disciples of Jesus. Over the summer, we fed the hungry, zip-lined, drove go-carts and bumper boats, helped with Cathedral Camp, and transformed Botsford House into our house. Beginning on August 23, will meet at Bostford House (on the playground) every Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. for donuts and fellowship and every Sunday evening from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. for EYC. During our Sunday evening time, we will enjoy fun, games, learning, spiritual time, and service work. Each week is a different opportunity for fun – so you don't want to miss it! The full schedule of events can be found on our brand-new website at www.trinityeyc.com. Be sure to check it often for new information about upcoming events! It starts with us. Come join us.